



HEALTH AFFAIRS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-1200

MAY 29 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR SURGEON GENERAL OF THE ARMY
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (FHP&R)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (HB&FP)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (C&PP)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (HPA)
TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY, CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER
TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY, DIRECTOR,
ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

SUBJECT: Center for Health Care Management Studies in the TRICARE Management Activity

Under DoD Directive 5136.12, "TRICARE Management Activity (TMA)," May 31, 2001, TMA responsibilities include the conduct of studies to support the management and implementation of policy for the Military Health System. To carry out this function, the Center for Health Care Management Studies (CHCMS) is hereby established. The Center will promote a centralized, integrated and useful program of health and health care management studies within the TRICARE Management Activity (TMA).

A program of health care management study is essential to proactively identify the transformational approaches needed to apply to our traditional methods of planning for and delivering health care services. The CHCMS will pull together the information needed to determine best practices and promising innovations in the financing and delivery of high quality health care within the Military Health System.

The CHCMS will be placed within the TMA, Health Program Analysis and Evaluation Directorate. The activities of the Center will include identification of investigation topics, coordination of an agenda for studies, and conduct of an intra and extramural program that meets the needs of our stakeholders. Supplemental guidance will be developed to outline the operations of the CHCMS and how the Services can support and participate in it.

Your advice will be requested by the Acting Director, LTC Thomas Williams, Ph.D., to identify suitable topics that address the tremendous challenges of providing a fully integrated, cost-effective health care benefit that meets the needs of our total force military. I look forward to the fruits of this collaborative effort and ask for your full support of it.

William Winkenwerder, Jr.

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